

SUMTER COUNTY

Honorable T.J. Montgomery

Sumter County Courthouse
P.O. Box 9
Livingston, AL 35470
(205) 652-7364

Samuel Kimbrough
Nancy L. Wilson
Daryl W. Brown, Sr.
Ernest Taylor
Fred Primm, Jr.

Ronald H. Rollins
Johnny L. Hatter
Isaac Bonner
Deloris Cook
Chris Spencer

Vanessa Bibbs
Delinda Lampley
Greg S. Griggers
Gail Fitch



Vista Volunteer: Jessie Benn

Council Priorities

1. Creating a Family Resource Center with focus on a computer/library center.

After school programs for under privileged children.

2. Eliminating child abuse and neglect

Developing and distributing child abuse and neglect pamphlets.

3. Persuading children to remain alcohol and drug free

Focus on early intervention through "Guns and Drugs are Out" mock trials.

Issues

Issues are the primary concerns or problems facing children in the county

Early Care Education

Children (0 – 5) are provided opportunities to fully develop emotionally, socially, physically, and cognitively and are ready to succeed.

Focus on good parenting

Action Steps

1) Seek parenting skills grant, distribute pamphlets, to apprise citizens of the parenting training that is available to needy families.

Focusing on the needs of the young

Action Steps

1) Providing support to Head Start by providing clothing to students.

Providing the basics to K & 1st graders

Action Steps

1) Provide school uniforms and school supplies to students.

Economic Security

Children grow up in a financially stable home where the child's basic needs can be met.

Economic development

Action Steps

1) Inform custodial and non-custodial parents of services available to them when they are attending child support court.

Encouraging good work ethics

Action Steps

1) Collaborating with Greene/Sumter enterprises to perform job training and to assist with job placement.

Support outreach to single parents with at-risk children

Action Steps

1) Provide clothing for new hires and food bank resources.

Education

Children learn the skills necessary to become productive citizens.

Securing school funding

Action Steps

- 1) Provide letters of support to Board of Education, seek funds and resources via court ordered community services.

Developing a truancy program

Action Steps

- 1) Developing strategies with truancy officers, district attorney, and principals.

Health

Children's (0 - 19) physical and mental well-being in the county.

Teen pregnancy prevention

Action Steps

- 1) Maintain CTF Grant to combat child abuse and neglect.
- 2) Offer parenting classes and provide speakers for teen sexual responsibility programs.

Drug intervention for children

Action Steps

- 1) Sponsor annual mock trial program and distribute anti-drug literature to families.

Mental health intervention for children

Action Steps

- 1) Encourage Mental Health Department to offer services for children.
- 2) Encourage Mental Health Department to provide in home service to children.

Parent Involvement Skills

Parents and guardians participation and effectiveness in fostering an environment for children to become mature, responsible and independent adults.

Teaching parenting skills

Action Steps

- 1) Seek parenting skills grant to continue the parenting course.

Educating citizens about child support

Action Steps

- 1) Educating single parents about services available to them to assist in single parent households.

Drug intervention for children

Action Steps

- 1) Educating parents about services available to them.

Safety

Children live free of abuse, neglect, crime, and drugs.

Anti-drug abuse

Action Steps

- 1) Continue alliance with the Board of Education to maintain drug deterrence programs.

Elimination of child abuse and neglect

Action Steps

- 1) Network with DHR and city officials to promote anti child abuse and neglect theme.

Firearm safety for children

Action Steps

- 1) Educate children regarding hazards associated with handguns and distribute pamphlets.

Policy Recommendations

- Provide a grant writer.
- Provide job training through state programs.
- Provide and require a mental health professional to be available to minors in each county.
- Dedicate funding to counties that are developing and maintaining a Family Resource Center.
- Promote awareness of child abuse and neglect through the media.

Accomplishments

The Children of the Village Network Inc is a 501©3 non profit organization that serves as the Sumter County Children's Policy Council, presented the Rocket Award to a York West End kindergarten student that included a bike, helmet and toys. This honor was presented because the student has shown dramatic improvement in his studies or positive behavior during the school year.

Wheel and Spokes Motorcycle Club's 32nd Annual Breakout Charity Ride members presented \$1,000 to the COTV's scholarship fund.

The Children of the Village Network Inc. was awarded a \$500 grant from the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation.

The Children of the Village Network presented a \$500 scholarship to a Sumter resident, who is a sophomore at East Mississippi Community College for maintaining a 3.60 average.

Sumter County District Court Judge Tammy Jackson Montgomery and staff held the Tenth Annual Mock Trial with over 200 fifth graders from Livingston Jr. High, Kinterbish Jr. High, York West End Jr. High, Sumter Academy and North Sumter Jr. High Schools. The focus of the 2005 Mock Trial was the anti-drug laws protecting children from cigarettes, beer and other drugs. Students learn the laws and consequences of breaking the law at their age.

Allstate Agent, York, Alabama presented a \$500 grant to the Children of the Village Network, Inc.

Children's Trust Fund of Alabama provided a grant to the Children's of the Village to conduct a parenting course that is designed to renew and strengthen parenting skills.

Wal-Mart Store, Livingston presented \$500 to Children of the Village Network, Inc. in recognition of Wal-Mart's commitment to support community service-oriented projects.

The children of Morning Star Baptist Church initiated a food drive that supports Children of the Village food bank. The donation of over 300 can goods will provide assistance to needy families in Sumter County.